

BILL # HB 2611

TITLE: fine; nonpayment; credit

SPONSOR: Smith

STATUS: As Introduced

REQUESTED BY: House

PREPARED BY: Kimberly Chelberg

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Description

Offenders who fail to pay their court ordered fine may be incarcerated due to non-payment. Currently, these individuals earn \$10 per day served in jail towards payment of their fine. HB 2611 would increase this "jail time served" credit from \$10 to \$50 per day.

Estimated Impact

This bill is estimated to have no state impact. According to the Department of Corrections, there are currently no inmates committed for failure to pay a fine.

The County Supervisors Association anticipates unknown county savings due to a decrease in the jail population.

Analysis

According to the County Supervisors Association of Arizona, HB 2611 would generate savings since people in jail would accrue credit towards payment of a fine at higher rate, which would reduce days served in jail. For example, to pay off a \$100 fine with hard labor, an offender would currently serve 10 days and this bill would decrease this jail time to 2 days. Therefore, counties would spend an estimated 80% less on inmates who are confined for fine nonpayment. Current daily jail costs to house inmates are approximately \$50 statewide.

Local Government Impact

As noted above, the County Supervisors Association anticipates unknown county savings due to certain offenders serving fewer days in jail.

2/24/05